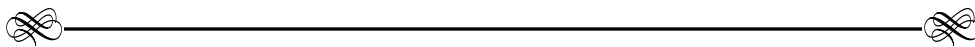




*The Fourteenth Annual
Recognition and Awards Reception
of the
Exceptional Education Department*



*Fireside Lounge
October 14th, 2009
7:00 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.*

 **Program** 

*7:30 p.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks—Dr. Kevin Miller,
Chairperson of the Exceptional Education Department*

Comments by:

Dr. Kevin Railey, Interim Provost

And

Dr. Ronald Rochon, Dean of the School of Education

*Recognition of the Gayle Fish '56 and Donald Schrader Scholarship
Award for Undergraduate Exceptional Education Majors*

Ms. Jeannine Allen

Ms. Ashley Hurd

*Recognition of the Dr. Richard C. Towne Graduate Student Scholarship
Award for Graduate Exceptional Education Majors*

Ms. Jennifer Sienkiewicz

*Recognition of the Geraldine and Gustave Werner Foundation Scholarship
Award for Undergraduate Exceptional Education Majors*

Ms. Samantha Gaglione

Ms. Sara Kutter

Ms. Katherine Niesser

*Recognition of the Joseph & Mary Daly Varga '43 Scholarship
Award for Graduate Exceptional Education Majors*

Ms. Rachel Berg

Ms. Jenna Boyce

*Recognition of the Judith Bondurant-Utz Early Childhood Award
Award for Early Childhood Exceptional Education Majors*

Ms. Yadira Austin

Recognition of the James Kreider Memorial Outstanding Cooperating Teacher Award

Ms. Colleen Schaefer

Recognition of Horace Mann Undergraduate Award

Ms. Sara Thoman

Recognition of Horace Mann Graduate Award

Mr. Dane DiCesare

Recognition of Bernard Yormak Graduate Award

Ms. Caitlin Herbert

Recognition of Bernard Yormak Undergraduate Award

Ms. Lauren Kessler

*Recognition of the Paul Thoms Council for Exceptional Children
Membership Awards*

**Victoria Hainz, Megan Mallaber, Elizabeth Mancuso, Erin McKenna,
Jessica O'Connor, Kara Rawluszki, Jessica Rosage, & Nicholas Savarino**

*Recognition of the University Faculty Senate President's Leadership Award,
State University of New York College at Buffalo*

Dr. Sharon Cramer

*Recognition of the Leo. D. Doherty Memorial Award for Outstanding Leadership and
Service, Northeastern Educational Research Association*

Dr. Sharon Cramer

*Recognition of the Muriel A. Howard Award for
Promotion of Equity and Campus Diversity*

Dr. Satasha Green

Recognition of the Hispanic Heritage 2009 Education Award

Dr. Sarita Samora

*Mistress of Ceremonies—Lisa A. Rafferty, Ph.D.
Introductions by Kathy Palumbo, M.S., Lynne Sommerstein, M.S., and
David Pomerantz, Ph. D..*

Exceptional Education Department Mission Statement

The mission of the Exceptional Education Department is to prepare teachers, scholars, and action researchers as exemplary leaders, and to advance the profession of special education through the science and art of teaching, learning and collaborating. Our graduates will contribute to the community by serving the needs of persons with disabilities and by broadening the general populations' understanding and appreciation of individuals with disabilities.

Gayle Fish '56 and Donald Schrader Undergraduate Award

The Werner Foundation has been very generous in their support of both the field of special education and the undergraduates in the Exceptional Education Department.. In addition to generously funding the Geraldine and Gustave Werner Undergraduate Awards again this year, the Werner Foundation also generously funded the Gayle Fish '56 and Donald Schrader Undergraduate Award this year for two, exemplar, undergraduate students in our program. This award was made in memory of Geraldine Werner's children: Gayle Fish and Donald Schrader.

Mrs. Geraldine Werner's son, Donald Schrader, was born with Down Syndrome. Mrs. Werner helped at his school and eventually took over the special education class. Gayle Fish, '56, '61, received her bachelor's degree in Exceptional Education. She was influenced by her mother's example as a teacher and advocate of those needing special education and encouraged her mother to establish the Werner Scholarships at Buffalo State.

Dr. Richard C. Towne Graduate Student Scholarship

This is the first year that the Dr. Richard C. Towne Graduate Student Scholarship is being awarded to an exceptional graduate student in the Exceptional Education Department. Dr. Richard C. "Dick" Towne was an esteemed professor and former chair of the Exceptional Education Department. Over the course of 33 years at Buffalo State College, he was recognized for his excellence in teaching, his scholarly research, his service to the College and his successful grant-writing which brought over \$1 million to Buffalo State. He demonstrated a joy for the art of teaching, an undying curiosity about the world, a staunch commitment to friendship, and a steadfast dedication to advocacy for improving the lives of individuals with disabilities. Dr. Towne's humor, creativity and simple joy of living life to the fullest were reflective of the balanced energy he brought to each and every day.